

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please insert the following heading at line 3 of page 1:

Field of the Invention

Please insert the following heading at line 6 of page 1:

Background of the Invention

Please insert the following heading at line 27 of page 1:

Summary of the Invention

Please insert the following heading at line 31 of page 3:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Please insert the following heading at line 18 of page 4:

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 4 of page 1 as follows:

The present invention relates to a doctor blade device ~~according to the precharacterizing clause of claim 1.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 28 of page 1 as follows:

According to the invention, the object is achieved by ~~the features of claim 1~~ a doctor blade device for cleaning a surface, having a doctor blade and a trough for receiving material which is wiped off from the surface by the doctor blade wherein the doctor blade can be moved between a position in which it protrudes from an opening in the trough and a position in which it is lowered into the trough, and in that the trough has a closure element which, in the lowered position of the doctor blade, is capable of closing the opening.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 10 as follows:

We claim: ~~Claims~~